

Remarks

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated October 19, 2006, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on January 19, 2007. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for the reasons discussed below.

The amendments to the specification presented above were originally presented in the preliminary amendment filed July 17, 2003 and correspond to the certificate of correction issued May 28, 2002. The Examiner has stated that the amendments presented in the preliminary amendment were improper because underlining was not necessary as the subject matter of the certificate of correction is considered to be a part of the issued patent. The Examiner requested that the amendments be presented without the underlining. Therefore, as the Examiner has requested, Applicant presents the above amendments without the underlining. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 31, 38, 49, and 50 have been written in independent form. Support for the amendments to claims 31, 38, and 50 may be found at least in previously submitted claim 30. Support for the amendment to claim 49 may be found at least in previously submitted claims 30 and 48. These amendments are not presented to distinguish a reference, thus, the claims as amended are entitled to a full range of equivalents if not previously amended to distinguish a reference.

Claims 1-29, 31, 38-47, and 49-51 remain pending in the application and are shown above. Claims 30, 32-37, 48, and 52-89 have been canceled by Applicant without prejudice to filing a continuation or divisional patent application. Claims 1-29, 31, 38-47, and 49-51 stand rejected by the Examiner. Reconsideration of the rejected claims is requested for reasons presented below.

Claims 1-29, 31, 38-47, and 49-51 stand rejected as being based upon a defective reissue oath/declaration under 35 U.S.C. § 251 and has directed Applicant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.175(a)(3). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

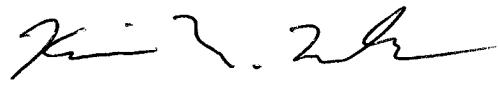
37 C.F.R. § 1.175(a)(3) does not currently exist and did not exist as of the filing of the instant reissue application on July 17, 2003. Therefore, there does not appear to

be a requirement of an "error" beyond stating that "The error includes claiming less than Applicant had the right to claim", which is already present in the declaration. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In conclusion, the references cited by the Examiner, alone or in combination, do not teach, show, or suggest the invention as claimed.

Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



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